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Bureaucracy slowing down vaccination process, says Saifuddin Nasution [NSTTV]

By [Nuradzimmah Daim](#), [Arfa Yunus](#) - July 28, 2021 @ 2:25pm

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KUALA LUMPUR: The delay in procuring vaccines from the beginning is among the main reasons why the vaccination programme is slow, claimed former Health Minister Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (PH-Kulim Bandar Baharu) today.

He said the delay in the procurement had also led to the spike in daily number of Covid-19 cases where tens of thousands of cases had been detected of late.

Saifuddin said while the government took the "wait and see" approach, other countries had expedited their inoculation process by making early bookings from vaccine companies.

"When there is fierce global competition for vaccine supplies, that is the time for us to focus on getting access (to the vaccines).

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"Other countries managed to get supplies quicker because they made prior commitments (to companies). They (companies) decided to make early deliveries due to that fierce competition.

"But, we were left behind simply because we did not make early bookings," Saifuddin told the Dewan Rakyat today after Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin presented his statement on the country's vaccination programme.

Steven Sim (PH-Bukit Mertajam) urged Khairy to ensure all vaccination centres (PPVs) have enough vaccine supplies, adding that failure to do so will lead to the public opting to purchase their own vaccines.

He said the vaccine sale to private companies must also be expedited as firms were now clueless on the status of their purchase as they were not given any dates by the ministry.

"I feel a little heavy to stand up and raise these points since the minister (Khairy) is actually the only functioning minister in this government but Mr Minister, our vaccine supply is slow and this is your responsibility.

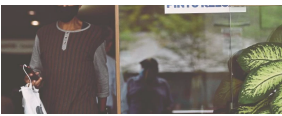
"I hope the government could provide dates for companies who have already registered (to buy vaccines). Since we've opened up the sale to private entities, it must mean we have enough supply right?" Sim said.

Saifuddin meanwhile reminded K vaccine companies to ensure all like those in other countries.

With the emergence of new varia vaccines would be extremely vita

"So, whatever we have already on the same time, we must have a c companies to allow Malaysia to c are new variants, the vaccines wi

"I notice that we only have this clause with Pfizer but not with the other five companies. This is important and we cannot overlook this," Saifuddin added.



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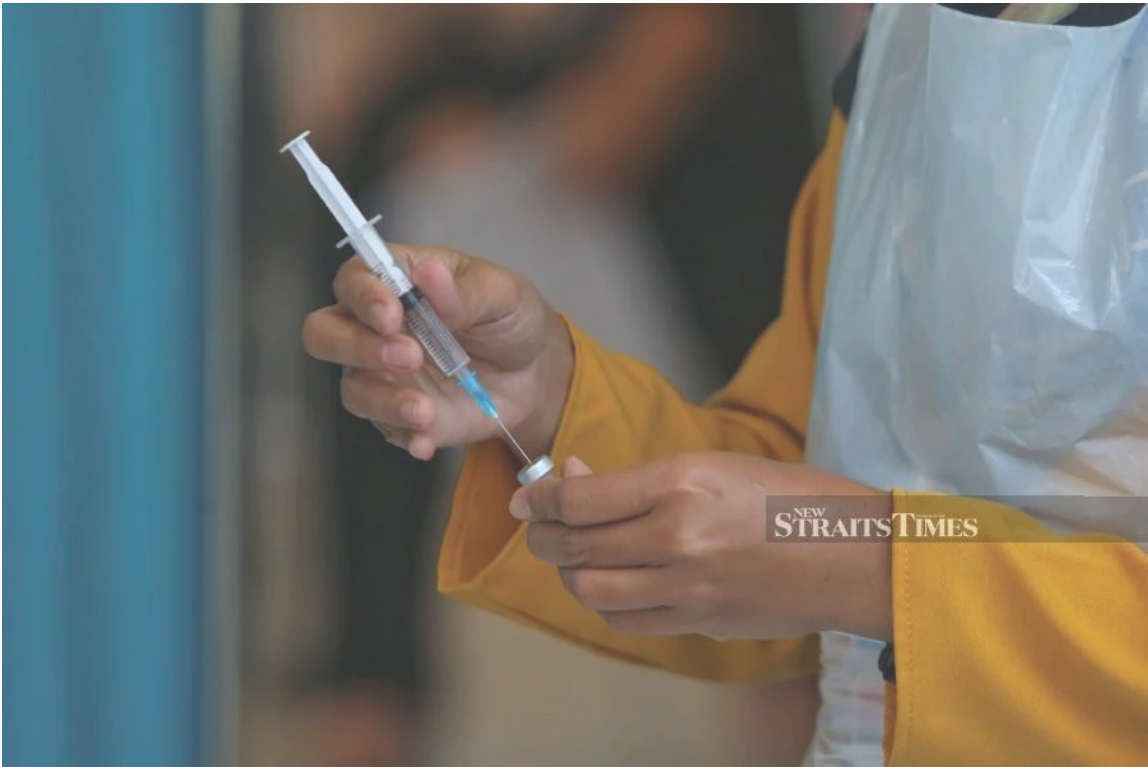
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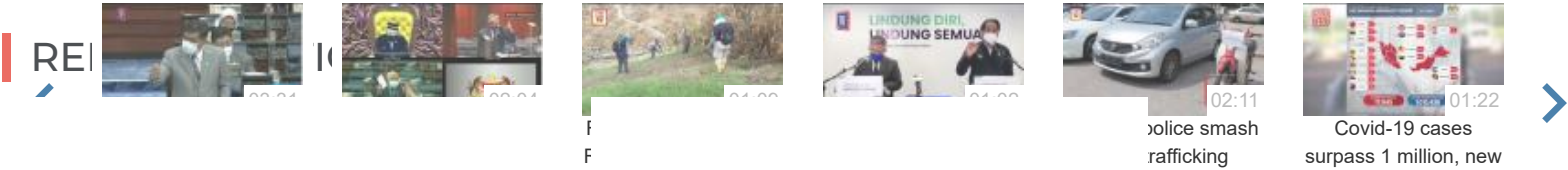
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The delay in procuring Covid-19 vaccines from the beginning is among the main reasons the country's vaccination programme is slow, claimed former minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (PH-Kulim Bandar Baru). - NSTP/SYAFEEQ AHMAD

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A smartphone displaying the NST.com.my website. The screen shows the 'TRENDING' section with a headline about Dr. Zaheri's 40th birthday. Below that is the 'TOP NEWS' section with a headline about Malaysian citizens waiting for COVID-19 vaccines. The website also features a '175' anniversary logo.

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